



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/688,656	10/17/2003	Warren V. Barkley	30835/301726	1226
45373 7590 05/31/2007 MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP (MICROSOFT) 233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE 6300 SEARS TOWER CHICAGO, IL 60606			EXAMINER JUNG, DAVID YIUK	
			ART UNIT 2134	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/31/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/688,656	Applicant(s) BARKLEY ET AL.	
	Examiner David Y. Jung	Art Unit 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-11 and 21-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) 1-11 and 21-31 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

CLAIMS PRESENTED

Claims 12-20 are cancelled.

Thus, Claims 1-11, 21-31 are presented.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11, 21-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reid (cited by Applicant, US Patent 6,182,226) and Tachibana (cited by Applicant, US Patent 6,480,963).

Regarding claim 1, Reid teaches "A computer-readable medium having thereon computer-executable instructions for performing a method comprising: establishing at least one connection to at least one computer network; issuing an issued network identifier for at least one computer network of said at least one computer network; and determining an [] for each issued network identifier with respect to at least one current

computer network (column 1, lines 57 to column 2, line 27, column 4, line 47 to column 5, line 25, column 16, line 20 to column 17, line 50)."

These passages of Reid are not explicit about "identity confidence" in the sense of the claim. Instead, Reid teaches "regions" caused by firewalls.

Even if Reid is not explicit about "identity confidence", Tachibana teaches such "identity confidence (abstract, figure 2, 7-10, column 2, line 50 to column 3, line 25, column 7, line 6 to column 10, line 21)" for the motivation of security (abstract). See, for example, the confidentiality levels used in confidentiality level table 15b of figure 2.

Hence, it would have been obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to combine the teachings of Reid and Tachibana for the motivation noted in the previous paragraphs so as to teach the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 2-4 (request handlings.), see abstract of Tachibana which discusses reception and transmission -- which can be considered to be requests. Regarding claim 5 (global ID, etc.), claims 6-8 (confidence modifiers, etc.), see figures 2, 7-10 which shows the global management of access levels that are related to confidence levels. Regarding claim 9, 11 (active network attribute handling) and claims 10, 11 (passive network attribute handling) note that Reid teaches "regions" separated by different network attributes -- column 16, line 20 to column 17, line 50.

Claims 21-31 are system analogs of claims 1-11. For the reasons noted in the rejections of claims 1-11, these claims 21-31 are not patentable.

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2134

The art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The art disclosed general background.

Points of Contact

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(571) 273-3836 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Jung whose telephone number is (571) 272-3836 or Kambiz Zand whose telephone number is (272) 272-3811.

Art Unit: 2134

David Jung

Patent Examiner

5/28/07

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.